Section IV. TROUBLESHOOTING

3-6. General

This section contains troubleshooting information for locating and correcting malfunctions which may develop in Rifle, M14 or M14A1.

3-7. Troubleshooting

Table 3-3 is intended as a guide for troubleshooting. The tables does not cover all possible malfunctions that may occur, However, it includes only the more common malfunctions. Additional data on troubleshooting of these rifles is contained in TM 9-1005-223-20. Malfunctions which are not corrected by actions listed will be referred to organizational maintenance for remedial action.

Table 33. Troubleshooting

Malfunction	Probable cause	Corrective action
1. Failure to load	a. Dirty or deformed ammunition.	a. Clean or replace.
	b. Damaged magazine tube.	b. Replace magazine.
	c. Dirty magazine.	c. Clean.
	d. Damaged or broken spring.	d. Replace magazine.
	e. Damaged or broken follower.	e. Replace magazine.
	f. Loose or damaged floor plate.	f. Replace magazine.
2. Magazine inserts with Difficulty	a. Bent or deformed magazine.	a. Replace magazine.
	b. Excessive dirt in receiver well or on magazine.	b. Clean and lubricate.
	c. Ammunition not fully seated in magazine.	c. Remove ammunition and reload properly.
	d. Deformed or damaged operating rod spring guide.	d. Refer to organizational maintenance.
	e. Deformed or damaged magazine latch.	e. Refer to organizational maintenance.

nec-	f. Magazine latch movement restricted.	f. Check movement. Clean if essary. If bent or damaged, refer to organizational maintenance.
3. Magazine cannot be retained in weapon	a. Magazine latch damaged or deformed.	a. Refer to organizational maintenance.
	b. Magazine latch spring damaged or broken.	b. Refer to organizational maintenance
	c. Magazine latch plate (magazine) damaged or missing.	c. Replace magazine.
	d. Locking recess at top front of magazine deformed.	d. Replace magazine.
	e. Magazine not fully installed.	e. Remove and install properly. Make certain latch clicks.
4. Failure to feed	a. Damaged or dirty ammunition.	a. Clean or replace ammunition.
	b. Weak or broken magazine spring.	b. Replace magazine.
	c. Damaged or deformed magazine.	c. Replace magazine.
	d. Damaged or deformed stripping lug on bolt.	d. Refer to organizational maintenance.
	e. Short recoil.	e. Refer to organizational maintenance.

Table 3-3. Troubleshooting-Continued

Malfunction	Probable cause	Corrective action
4. Failure to feed-continued	f. Weak or broken operating rod spring.	f. Refer to organizational maintenance.
5. Failure to chamber	a. Dirty, damaged or corroded ammunition.	a. Clean with dry cloth or replace ammunition.
	b. Dirty chamber.	b. Clean barrel and chamber.
	c. Weak or broken operating rod spring.	c. Refer to organizational maintenance.
6. Bolt fails to lock	a Cartridge case holding bolt out of battery.	a. Pull bolt to rear and remove deformed cartridge case. Clean ammunition and/or barrel chamber.
	b. Dirty chamber.	b. Clean barrel and chamber.
	c. Extractor does not snap over rim of cartridge base.	c. Clean bolt assembly and extractor recess in breech face of barrel, or refer to organizational maintenance.

	d. Frozen or blocked ejector spring and plunger.	d. Refer to organizational maintenance.
	e. Restricted movement of, or damaged operating rod, or operating rod spring.	e. Refer to organizational maintenance.
	f. Bolt not fully rotated and locked in receiver.	f. Refer to organizational maintenance.
	g. Damaged receiver.	g. Refer to organizational maintenance.
7. Failure to fire	a. Emptied magazine.	a. Load magazine.
	b. Bolt not fully forward and locked.	b. Refer to "Bolt fails to lock."
	c. Defective ammunition.	c. Replace ammunition.
	d. Firing pin worn, damaged or movement restricted.	d. Clean bolt or refer to organizational maintenance.
	e. Broken hammer.	e. Refer to organizational maintenance.
	f. Weak or broken hammer spring.	f. Refer to organizational maintenance.

Table 3-3. Troubleshooting-Continued

Malfunction	Probable cause	Corrective action
7. Failure to fire--continued	g. Hammer lugs, trigger lugs, or sear worn or broken sufficiently to cause hammer to ride the bolt forward.	g. Refer to organizational maintenance.
8. Short recoil	a. Gas plug loose or missing.	a. Tighten plug or refer to organizational maintenance.
	b. Restricted movement of operating rod assembly.	b. Refer to organizational maintenance.
	c. Bolt binding.	c. Clean receiver or refer to organizational maintenance.
	d. Cylinder not fully installed (blocks gas port).	d. Remove gas cylinder plug. Loosen gas cylinder lock. Push gas cylinder down as far as it will go, using hand pressure only. Tighten gas cylinder lock as far as it will go then back off lock one half' turn to aline

		gas cylinder plug with cylinder. Install gas cylinder plug and tighten with light pull.
	e. Gas piston restricted.	e. Clean gas cylinder and piston. Refer to organizational maintenance, if damaged.
	f. Damaged connector assembly.	f. Refer to organizational maintenance.
	g. Partially closed spindle valve.	g. Turn valve to correct position.
	h. Improper lubrication in cold weather.	h. Clean and lubricate properly.
9. Failure to unlock	Defective ammunition. Dirty or burred bolt.	Replace ammunition. Clean and lubricate or refer to organizational maintenance.
10. Failure to Extract	a. Spindle valve closed.	a. Open spindle valve.
	b. Cartridge seized in chamber (sheared rim). Clean chamber.	b. Remove cartridge.
	c. Short recoil.	c. Refer to "short recoil."
	d. Damaged or deformed extractor.	d. Refer to organizational maintenance.

Table 3-3. Troubleshooting-Continued

Malfunction	Probable cause	Corrective action
10. Failure to extract-continued	e. Weak, deformed or frozen extractor plunger, and spring assembly.	e. Refer to organizational maintenance.
	f. Ruptured or separated cartridge case in chamber.	f. Remove cartridge case or refer to organizational maintenance.
11. Failure to eject	a. Short recoil.	a. Refer to "short recoil."
	b. Weak, deformed or frozen ejector spring and plunger.	b. Refer to organizational maintenance.
12. Failure to hard bolt rearward	a. Damaged or deformed magazine follower.	a. Replace magazine.
	b. Damaged or deformed bolt lock.	b. Refer to organizational maintenance.
	c. Bolt lock movement restricted.	c. Clean bolt lock recess. If not corrected, refer to organizational maintenance.
	d. Weak or broken magazine spring.	d. Replace magazine.

	RIFLE BIPOD, M2	
13. Fails to clamp or lock securely	a. Heavy accumulation of foreign material.	a. Clean and lubricate.
	b. Locking bolt not secure.	b. Tighten bolt as required.
14. Failure of legs to remain in extended position	a. Pivot plunger button not seated in leg detent.	a. Position button portion of leg until it is seated in detent.
	b. Damaged or bent leg assembly.	b. Refer to organizational maintenance.
	BAYONET KNIFE, M6, (Rifle M14 only)	
15. Bayonet does not remain firmly attached to rifle	Damaged latch.	Refer to organizational maintenance.